OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 13, 2025

<u>HB 96 (State Operating Budget)</u>: This week, the Senate passed HB 96 out of the Chamber. The Senate's version of the bill does include some changes from the version passed by the house, including an amendment establishing a study committee for Ohio's DD system. Overall, provider rates were not adjusted from the Governor's introduced budget earlier in the year, mostly maintaining current reimbursement rates for DD services. The bill now goes to conference committee for the two chambers to resolve any differences. During the Friday morning call, Christine provided an update on the budget provisions included in the Senate's version. You can view <u>Christine's presentation here.</u> Please reach out to <u>Christine</u> with any questions.



PAC Outing: Thanks to everyone who joined us for last week's OPRA PAC Fundraiser in Urbana. OPRA's PAC helps ensure that providers, and the people we support, have a seat at the table when critical policy and funding decisions are made. The dollars we raise through the PAC allow us to advocate more effectively, build relationships with policymakers, and fight for a system that supports high-quality services and a strong workforce. A huge thank you to our sponsors who made today's event possible and who believe in the power of this work. And thanks again to everyone who came out and supported the PAC!

<u>MUI Training:</u> As a reminder, all DD personnel must be trained on the new MUI rule by July 1st. The department will also be uploading MUI training to the My Learning website on July 1st. Reach out to <u>Rachel</u> if you have any questions.

<u>Call for Speakers:</u> OPRA is proud to announce "The Call for Session Proposals" is officially open for the 2025 OPRA Annual Conference. The conference will be held in-person and hosted at Hilton Polaris, 8700 Lyra Drive, Columbus OH on October 23-24, 2025. All proposals must be submitted with a clear outline ensuring your sessions are practical, forward-thinking and offer concrete tools and strategies for driving excellence in I/DD services. To learn more and submit a proposal, <u>complete the form here!</u>



Things To Know:

- Topics Include: Empathy-Based Leadership 102, Cohesive Team Leadership, MUI/DODD Updates, Difficult Conversations, Productive Disagreements, and more!
- This training day will satisfy the 6 hours of required annual training for agency Directors of Operations.
- Developed for Agency 'Directors of Operations' but the material will be relevant and helpful for any disability service leader

Click here to learn more and register!

In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

<u>Memo Monday:</u> Click here to read this week's <u>DODD Memo Monday</u>, including info (also below) on the DSP Compensation Reporting dues in 2 weeks, the end of fiscal year payment dates, the Internet Assistance Project, upcoming webinars and more!

Required DSP Compensation Reporting Due- Response rate is currently at 34% of providers.

Attention: Agency Providers of Homemaker, Personal Care and/or Day Services:

The annual Direct Support Professional (DSP) Compensation Survey is due June 25—less than one month away! DODD recommends starting the process as soon as possible to confirm delivery of your survey code and to avoid any potential delays in receiving technical assistance from DODD staff. If your agency did not receive a survey code, please contact <u>DSPComp@dodd.ohio.gov</u>. Recommended steps for success:

• Gather employment start and end dates for all DSPs who provided HPC or day services for any length of time in 2024.

• Gather 2024 payroll data for those employees using your agency's payroll reporting system and/or the final payroll stub issued to your DSPs in 2024.

- Review the PowerPoint and Excel workbook on DODD's website.
- <u>Watch a pre-recorded training</u>.

• Ask for assistance from your fiscal partners, who may include a chief financial officer (CFO), an accountant, and/or a billing agent.

• Periodically review your agency's contact information in Provider Network Management/Provider Service Management (PMN/PSM) to remain compliant and up to date with the latest DODD information.

• Send any questions to <u>DSPComp@dodd.ohio.gov</u>.

Independent providers and intermediate care facilities do not need to complete the survey.

Upcoming Events

6/17: OPRA District 2 Meeting

6/18: OPRA Residential Resources Committee Meeting

6/19: OPRA Healthcare Committee Meeting

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

News & Resources

"Ohio lawmakers enter final stretch for budget negotiations"

"Evolving Market Trends In The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Industry"

"Cuts to Medicaid for Ohioans with disabilities could take away home care and job help"

"Welch and Hawley introduce legislation to raise federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour"



LEAD WHERE YOU ARE SUMMERS YOU ARE SUMMERS YOU ARE SUMMERS YOU ARE

June 24, 2025 July 16, 2025 August 19, 2025

Featuring Betty Collins

More Information & Registration at: <u>bit.ly/OPRASS25</u>

